Representation for Settlement of Debt between Farmers, Entrepreneurs and Bank in A.P.

3748. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a specific representation has been received by Government to organise settlement of debts between farmers, rural entrepreneurs and nationalised banks in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether it is a fact that nationalised banks in Andhra Pradesh are not coming forward to properly consider the applications of indebted farmers and rural entrepreneurs for settlement of their debts;

(c) what steps Government have taken to initiate a dialogue on the mentioned representation;

(d) whether any meeting has been called to discuss steps in the this regard; and

(e) the steps proposed to solve the debts incurred by farmers and rural entrepreneur which are owed to nationalised banks?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI R. JANARTHANAN): (a) to (e) The information is being collected and, to the extent available, will be laid on the Table of the House.

Resource Mobilisation through Taxation of Services

43749. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that of late taxation of services has emerged as an important sphere of resources mobilisation; and

(b) if so, whether Government will ensure a balanced earmarking of the categories of services between Centre and the States so that State Governments can also get a legitimate share of power of taxing this sector?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): (a) Taxation of services has started from the Financial year 19994-95. Total gross tax revenue from Service Tax and revenue from other Taxes are given below:—

	Year	Total Gross Tax Revenue		% Service Tax as of Total Gross Tax Revenue (Rs. in crore)
		Other Taxes	Service Tax	
Actuals	1994-95	91887	407	0.44
Actuals	1995-96	110362	862	0.78
Actuals	1996-97	127703	1059	0.82
R.E.	1997-98	141220	1500	1.05
B.E.	1998-99	155844	1867	1.18

(b) Based on the recommendation of the 10th Finance Commission and the Inter State Council, the Government has introduced a Constitution Amendment bill in Lok Sabha on 14.7.98 where-under 29% of the gross proceeds of almost all Central taxes will be assigned to States. After the bill is passed, the States will inter alia share the resources generated by the Service Tax.

Target of Lending to Agriculture not achieved by SBI

3750. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State bank of India and all of its subsidiaries have not achieved the target of 18 per